AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1.   (Currently amended) An alert control method in a mobile telephone equipment

having an alert function, comprising:

storing a last-communication time at which actual talk with a person was made last

related to a name of a person in a phonebook database in said mobile telephone equipment;

determining based on the time whether a predetermined time interval has elapsed

since said last-communication time without talking with the person; and

alerting when it is determined that the predetermined time interval has elapsed

without talking with the person.

Claim 2.   (Canceled).

Claim 3.   (Currently amended) The alert control method according to claim 1, wherein

the determining comprises:

reading a current time from a timer;

calculating an elapsed time from said last-communication the last-talk time to the

current time; and

determining whether the elapsed time exceeds the predetermined time interval.

Claim 4.   (Currently amended) The alert control method according to claim 1, wherein

said last-communication the last- talk time is initially set to a time when data related to the

person is registered into the phonebook database.

Claim 5.   (Currently amended) The alert control method according to claim 1, wherein said last-communication ~~the last-talk~~ time is updated each time communication ~~a talk~~ with the person is terminated.

Claim 6.   (Original) The alert control method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined time interval is arbitrarily determined depending on a user's instruction.

Claim 7.   (Currently amended) The alert control method according to claim 1, wherein the alerting is performed by driving ~~at least~~ one of a speaker, a vibrator, and a display.

Claim 8.   (Currently amended) An alert control method in a mobile telephone equipment having an alert function, comprising:

storing a last-communication ~~last-talk~~ time related to a name of each of a plurality of persons ~~to talk with~~ in a phonebook database in said mobile telephone equipment;

dividing the plurality of persons into a plurality of groups;

determining a before-alert time interval for each of the groups, wherein the before-alert time interval is a time interval during which communication ~~talk~~ with the person is not made before alerting;

determining whether the before-alert time interval has elapsed after the last-communication ~~last-talk~~ time; and

alerting when it is determined that the before-alert time interval has elapsed after the last-communication ~~last-talk~~ time.

Claim 9.　　(Currently amended) The alert control method according to claim 8, wherein the last-communication last-talk time is initially set to a time when data related to the person is registered into the phonebook database.

Claim 10.　　(Currently amended) The alert control method according to claim 8, wherein the last-communication time is updated each time a communication talk with the person is terminated.

Claim 11.　　(Currently amended) An alert control method in a mobile telephone equipment having an alert function, comprising:

　　storing a last-communication time at which actual talk with a person was made last related to a name of a person in a phonebook database in said mobile telephone equipment;

　　storing an alert-inhibition time period during which alert is inhibited;

　　determining based on the time whether a predetermined time interval has elapsed since said last-communication time without talking with the person;

　　alerting when a current time falls out of the alert-inhibition time period and it is determined that the predetermined time interval has elapsed without talking with the person; and

　　inhibiting alert when the current time falls into the alert-inhibition time period even if it is determined that the predetermined time interval has elapsed without talking with the person.

Claim 12.　　(Canceled).

Claim 13.   (Currently amended) The alert control method according to claim 11, wherein

the alerting is performed by driving at least one of a speaker, a vibrator, and a display.

Claim 14.   (Previously presented) The alert control method according to claim 13,

wherein, inhibiting comprises an audible alert by the speaker and/or the vibrator is inhibited

and a silent alert on the display is permitted.

Claim 15.   (Previously presented) The alert control method according to claim 1, further

comprising:

     storing an alert list containing persons targeted for alert; and

     displaying the alert list in form of a menu on a display so that a desired one is selected

from the alert list to make a call to the desired one.

Claim 16.   (Previously presented) The alert control method according to claim 8, further

comprising:

     storing an alert list containing persons targeted for alert; and

     displaying the alert list in form of a menu on a display so that a desired one is selected

from the alert list to make a call to the desired one.

Claim 17.   (Previously presented) The alert control method according to claim 11, further

comprising:

     storing an alert list containing persons targeted for alert; and

     displaying the alert list in form of a menu on a display so that a desired one is selected

from the alert list to make a call to the desired one.

Claim 18.   (Currently amended) A <u>mobile</u> telephone apparatus having an alert function, comprising:

a phonebook database <u>in said mobile telephone apparatus</u> for storing <u>a last-communication</u> time ~~at which actual talk with a person was made last~~ related to a name of a person; and

a controller for determining based on the time whether a predetermined time interval has elapsed <u>since said last-communication time</u> ~~without talking with the person~~ and starting the alert function when it is determined that the predetermined time interval has elapsed ~~without talking with the person~~.

Claim 19.   (Currently amended) A <u>mobile</u> telephone apparatus having an alert function, comprising:

a phonebook database <u>in said mobile telephone apparatus</u> for storing a <u>last-communication</u> ~~last-talk~~ time related to a name of each of a plurality of persons ~~to talk with~~, wherein the plurality of persons is divided into a plurality of groups; and

a controller for determining a before-alert time interval for each of the groups, wherein the before-alert time interval is a time interval during which <u>communication</u> ~~talk~~ with the person is not made before alerting, determining whether the before-alert time interval has elapsed after the <u>last-communication</u> ~~last-talk~~ time, and starting the alert function when it is determined that the before-alert time interval has elapsed after the <u>last-communication</u> ~~last-talk~~ time.

Claim 20.   (Currently amended) A <u>mobile</u> telephone apparatus having an alert function, comprising:

a phonebook database <u>in said mobile telephone apparatus</u> for storing <u>a last-communication</u> time ~~at which actual talk with a person was made last~~ related to a name of a person;

an alert-inhibition timetable storing an alert-inhibition time period during which alert is inhibited; and

a controller for determining based on the time whether a predetermined time interval has elapsed <u>since said last-communication time</u> ~~without talking with the person~~, starting the alert function when a current time falls out of the alert-inhibition time period and it is determined that the predetermined time interval has elapsed <u>since said last-communication time</u> ~~without talking with the person~~, and inhibiting alert when the current time falls into the alert-inhibition time period even if it is determined that the predetermined time interval has elapsed <u>since said last-communication time</u> ~~without talking with the person~~.

Claim 21.   (Currently amended) An alert control method in <u>a mobile</u> telephone equipment having an alert function, comprising:

storing time data related to a name of a person to communicate with in a phonebook database <u>in said mobile telephone equipment</u> in response to termination of a call to the person;

determining based on the time data whether a predetermined time interval has elapsed without communicating with the person; and

alerting when it is determined that the predetermined time interval has elapsed

without communicating with the person.

Claim 22.   (Previously presented) The alert control method according to claim 21,

wherein the time is a last-communication time at which communication with the person was

made last.

Claim 23.   (Currently amended) An alert control method in <u>a mobile</u> telephone equipment

having an alert function, comprising:

storing time data related to a name of a person to communicate with in a phonebook

database <u>in said mobile telephone equipment</u>;

storing an alert-inhibition time period during which alert is inhibited;

determining based on the time data whether a predetermined time interval has elapsed

without communicating with the person;

alerting when a current time falls out of the alert-inhibition time period and it is

determined that the predetermined time interval has elapsed without communicating with the

person; and

inhibiting alert when the current time falls into the alert-inhibition time period even if

it is determined that the predetermined time interval has elapsed without communicating with

the person.

Claim 24.   (Previously presented) The alert control method according to claim 23,

wherein the time data is a last-communication time at which communication with the person

was made last.

Claim 25.   (Currently amended) A <u>mobile</u> telephone apparatus having an alert function,

comprising:

a phonebook database <u>in said mobile telephone apparatus</u> for storing time data related

to a name of a person to communicate with in response to termination of a call to the person;

and

a controller for determining based on the time data whether a predetermined time

interval has elapsed without communicating with the person and starting the alert function

when it is determined that the predetermined time interval has elapsed without

communicating with the person.

Claim 26.   (Currently amended) A <u>mobile</u> telephone apparatus having an alert function,

comprising:

a phonebook database <u>in mobile telephone apparatus</u> for storing a last-communication

talk time related to a name of each of a plurality of persons to communicate with in response

to termination of a call to the person, wherein the plurality of persons is divided into a

plurality of groups; and

a controller for determining a before-alert time interval for each of the groups,

wherein the before-alert time interval is a time interval during which communication with the

person is not made before alerting, determining whether the before-alert time interval has

elapsed after the last-communication time, and starting the alert function when it is

determined that the before-alert time interval has elapsed after the last-communication time.

Claim 27.   (Currently amended) A <u>mobile</u> telephone apparatus having an alert function,

comprising:

a phonebook database <u>in said mobile telephone apparatus</u> for storing time data related to a name of a person to communicate with in response to termination of a call to the person;

an alert-inhibition timetable storing an alert-inhibition time period during which alert is inhibited; and

a controller for determining based on the time data whether a predetermined time interval has elapsed without communicating with the person, starting the alert function when a current time falls out of the alert-inhibition time period and it is determined that the predetermined time interval has elapsed without communicating with the person, and inhibiting alert when the current time falls into the alert-inhibition time period even if it is determined that the predetermined time interval has elapsed without communicating with the person.